

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following new paragraph, beginning on page 1, line 3:

This application is a U.S. national entry of International Application No. PCT/US2004/036689, filed on November 3, 2004, which is a Continuation-In-Part of U.S. Application No. 10/699,936, filed on November 3, 2003.

Please insert the following new paragraphs, on a separate page following the claims:

ABSTRACT

The invention provides compositions and methods for detecting the presence of SARS-coronavirus, for screening anti-SARS coronavirus agents and vaccines, and for reducing infection with plus-strand RNA viruses such as SARS-coronavirus.